

# SENATE RECORD VOTE ANALYSIS

106th Congress  
1st Session

Vote No. 326

October 14, 1999, 4:01 p.m.  
Page S-12610 Temp. Record

## DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS/Conference, Passage

**SUBJECT:** Conference report to accompany the Department of Defense Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 2000 . . . H.R. 2561. Agreeing to the report.

### ACTION: CONFERENCE REPORT AGREED TO, 87-11

**SYNOPSIS:** The conference report to accompany H.R. 2561, the Department of Defense (DoD) Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 2000, will provide \$267.034 billion in new budget authority (after scorekeeping adjustments) for the military functions of the Department of Defense, which is \$4.529 billion more than requested and \$17.3 billion more than provided last year (not counting fiscal year (FY) 1999 emergency funding of \$16 billion). The bill will provide a total of \$7.2 billion in new emergency funding. An offset of \$2.6 billion from spectrum action sales will be assumed. Contract payments will not have to be made sooner than required by contract terms (as currently required by the Prompt Payment Act), which will move \$1.2 billion in costs into FY 2001. Details are provided below.

- Military personnel: \$73.894 billion; recommended total active duty end strength, 1,385,432; recommended Guard and Reserve end strength, 865,298; a 4.8 percent pay raise will be provided; increases will be provided for enlistment and retention efforts.

- Operation and maintenance: \$92.235 billion; additionally, \$150 million will be transferred from the National Defense Stockpile Transaction Fund; funding for the Overseas Operations Contingency Fund will be \$1.723 billion (\$665 million less than requested); \$460.5 million will be provided for former Soviet Union Cooperative Threat Reduction programs; \$300 million will be provided for Quality of Life Enhancements.

- Procurement: \$52.981 billion, including: \$2.671 billion for 15 C-17 airlift aircraft; \$2.7 billion for 36 F/A-18E/F fighters; \$2.68 billion for 3 DDG-51 destroyers; \$375 million in advance procurement for the LHD-8 amphibious ship; and up to \$277 million may be transferred for advance procurement for the F-22 Raptor Fighter (see F-22 below).

- Research, development, test, and evaluation: \$36.439 billion, including funding to accelerate the development of a national missile defense system; see also F-22 below.

- F-22: \$1.222 billion will be appropriated for the F-22 engineering and manufacturing development program; in addition, \$1

(See other side)

YEAS (87)				NAYS (11)		NOT VOTING (2)	
Republican (52 or 95%)		Democrats (35 or 81%)		Republicans (3 or 5%)	Democrats (8 or 19%)	Republicans (0)	Democrats (2)
Abraham	Helms	Akaka	Kerrey	Fitzgerald	Bayh		Kennedy <sup>-2AY</sup>
Allard	Hutchinson	Baucus	Landrieu	McCain	Boxer		Kerry <sup>-2</sup>
Ashcroft	Hutchison	Biden	Lautenberg	Voinovich	Feingold		
Bennett	Inhofe	Bingaman	Leahy		Graham		
Bond	Jeffords	Breaux	Levin		Harkin		
Brownback	Kyl	Bryan	Lieberman		Kohl		
Bunning	Lott	Byrd	Lincoln		Robb		
Burns	Lugar	Cleland	Mikulski		Wellstone		
Campbell	Mack	Conrad	Moynihan				
Chafee	McConnell	Daschle	Murray				
Cochran	Murkowski	Dodd	Reed				
Collins	Nickles	Dorgan	Reid				
Coverdell	Roberts	Durbin	Rockefeller				
Craig	Roth	Edwards	Sarbanes				
Crapo	Santorum	Feinstein	Schumer				
DeWine	Sessions	Hollings	Torricelli				
Domenici	Shelby	Inouye	Wyden				
Enzi	Smith, Bob (I)	Johnson					
Frist	Smith, Gordon						
Gorton	Snowe						
Gramm	Specter						
Grams	Stevens						
Grassley	Thomas						
Gregg	Thompson						
Hagel	Thurmond						
Hatch	Warner						

#### EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE:

- 1—Official Business
- 2—Necessarily Absent
- 3—Illness
- 4—Other

#### SYMBOLS:

- AY—Announced Yea
- AN—Announced Nay
- PY—Paired Yea
- PN—Paired Nay

billion will be available for transfer for the purposes of F-22 program research, development, test and evaluation, of which \$277 may be transferred for advance procurement; the award of a full funding contract for low-rate initial production for the F-22 aircraft program will be barred until the first flight of an F-22 aircraft incorporating Block 3.0 software has been conducted; any funds transferred for F-22 advance procurement will not be available for obligation until the Secretary of Defense certifies to the congressional defense committees that all 1999 Defense Acquisition Board exit criteria have been met; an additional \$300 million will be appropriated for F-22 program termination liability or for other F-22 program contractual requirements in lieu of termination liability obligations; Senate conferees favored procurement of F-22 fighters, and House conferees favored ending the program; as part of the above compromise, Senate conferees also agreed to language to authorize and fund 14 specific military construction projects.

- Miscellaneous: approximately \$11.2 billion will be appropriated for health programs; the threshold amount for matching disbursements with particular obligations will be reduced to \$500,000 (see vote No. 155); the President will be given the authority to lift certain sanctions against India and Pakistan; and funds will not be used for reconstruction activities in Serbia (except for the province of Kosovo) as long as Milosevic remains President of Serbia.

**Those favoring passage contended:**

This bipartisan conference report is extremely vital to our nation and has overwhelming support from members of both parties. All 17 Senate conferees have signed this report because it will improve the lives of the men and women of the Armed Forces and will sustain improvements being made to the security of the United States. First, the members of our military need better financial support from Government. This bill will address that need by providing a 4.8-percent pay raise for all members for fiscal year 2000. It will also provide funding for the restoration of full retirement benefits for military personnel and will fund new retention and enlistment bonuses to attract personnel to the military. Second, the security of the United States is greatly improved by the bill's support of vital programs such as the F-22 program and the national missile defense effort. Several Senators have said that they are concerned about the large increase in funding that this bill will provide and about the means by which that increase will be provided. While it is true that this bill will appropriate \$17 billion more than the 1999 bill, it is important to keep in mind that in 1999 Congress added \$16.6 billion for Kosovo, Bosnia, and other emergency requirements that are not included in that calculation. This bill will really provide only \$1 billion more than was provided last year, which is a very modest increase when we consider that the bill will provide for a large pay raise, an enhanced retirement system, and additional target pay increases for many members of the military. As for the complaints about the means used in order to provide the increase, we note that we stayed within Senate rules, and we make no apology for doing our utmost to provide the total level of funding that is needed to ensure our national security needs are adequately funded. We are certain that a majority of our colleagues agree and will vote in favor of this conference report.

**While favoring passage, some Senators expressed the following reservations:**

We have three concerns with this bill. First, the money will not be allocated as effectively and efficiently as possible. Much better priorities could have been set. Second, we object to some of the budget gimmicks that have been used. We particularly object to the way this bill stayed within the spending limits as estimated by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO)--when the CBO said that the bill was over budget, the Budget Committee told it to change its estimate. That action, called directed scorekeeping, is within the rules, but it is not acceptable to us. Third, we object to the total cost of this bill. It will appropriate \$17 billion more than was appropriated last year. That increase is frankly too large. We would rather spend at least part of that increase on such areas as education, crime prevention, or health care. With these concerns voiced, we will vote in favor of the conference report.

**Those opposing passage contended:**

Though we understand the importance of supporting the United States military, we are fed up with budgeting procedures that are unconscionable and non-credible. First, conferees have labeled as "emergency" funding many normal, predictable expenses. They did so because emergency spending does not count under the spending caps. This action allowed them to increase total spending while they pretended to stay under the caps. This type of budgetary subterfuge is anything but honorable and only serves to further injure the already waning credibility Congress has in the eyes of the American public. We are exhausting the non-Social Security surplus and, if we are not careful, we will soon be tapping into the Social Security surplus. Our second complaint with this bill is that it contains noncompetitive purchasing requirements that will raise Government costs. We should not waste the American taxpayers' money in this fashion. Third, the most blatantly obvious problem with this bill is that it contains a massive amount of pork-barrel spending on countless unrequested products and programs. There are earmarks and set-asides for powerful defense contractors, influential local groups and officials, and other interests. There is also earmarked funding for ships, aircraft, research programs, and 15 military construction projects that were not even requested. Because of these abusive budgeting practices, we will vote against the conference report.